# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1818
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
SCHEMES IN BIOTECHNOLOGY
ANANTRAO GUDHE

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have reviewed performance/progress of schemes for promotion, development/R&D in Bio-technology during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of new schemes launched/proposed by the Government for promotion/development and adoption of bio-technology in the production process both in agriculture and industry during the current year and the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise; and

(d) the details of institutions set up/proposed for education/higher study in bio-technology and their present and projected intake capacity; State-wise?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) : Yes, the Department of Biotechnology, has in place a strong mechanism for reviewing the performance/progress of schemes for promotion and development of Biotechnology. There are several expert committees viz. Scientific Advisory Committees for policy matters, Biotechnology Research and Promotion Committee and 12 Subject matter Task Forces, other expert committees, Project Management Committees at Programme level etc. These committees meet twice a year for necessary recommendations, mid-course corrections, monitoring/reviewing of the progress/performance of various schemes/projects. The detailed composition, recommendations and action taken thereof are published in the Department`s Annual Reports year to year. Further, the activities of the Autonomous Institutions and the Public Sector Undertaking are periodically reviewed and monitored by their respective Governing bodies and Scientific Advisory Committees.

(c) : Details of schemes launched/proposed by the department for promotion and Development in Agriculture and Industry for each year are published in Annual Report of Department. The programmes/schemes proposedto be taken up during the 9th plan (1997-2002) including the remaining period of the plan are published in the 9th Plan Document of the Department made available by the Planning Commission for Public use. In brief, during the current financial year, the department has supported R&D projects/schemes in agricultural biotechnology for improvement and development of pest and disease resistance, salt tolerance and quality of cotton, rice, wheat, cowpea, pigeonpea,mungbean, urad bean; plant tissue culture for production of elite material in tree species; demonstration of biofertilisers and biopesticides in institutions/universities of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, North-East, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. A National Centre for Plant Genome Research was also established in Delhi for net working on genome research. In Industrial biotechnology, projects for development of diagnostic kits of food contaminants, improvement of processing of fruits and vegetables are also funded. During remaining period of 9th plan, several projects in these areas will be strengthened and leads will be developed into technologies for transfer to industries to promote production activities.

(d) : The department of Biotechnology has been supporting through Post Graduate teaching (M. Sc./M. Tech./PGDiploma/Post MD/MS Certificate/PDF) in 49 Institutions/Universities/and other ortanisations in the following states with their intake capacity; Assam (22), Andhra Pradesh (34), Bihar

(12), Chandigarh (14), Delhi (80), Gujarat (30), Goa (10), Himachal Pradesh

(15), J&K (10), Kerala (12), Karnataka(35), Madhya Pradesh (10), Maharashtra(40), Orissa (12), Pondicherry (10), Punjab (32), Rajasthan

(10), Tamil Nadu (67), Uttar Pradesh (62) and West Bengal (26). Seven programmes are likely to be initiated in some more states including North-East.